

President of Chile---Talk With Don Ramon Barros Luco in Executive Mansion

Whose Life
Bull—His
the United
atures of the
ile—A Con-
aries, Whose
ave Indepen-
The President
A Look at the
Chilean Police
ernment Rail-
Success—The
Vast Posses-

ENTER.
go, Chile.
with the
Chilean re-
on Ramon
as been
man-
years.
early ev-
has been
years ago
ed Presi-
ds.

patriot and
of the lead-
Balm-
a narrow
etiship
unk by the
of the coast.
the officers on
suits by catching
all that had been
swam to the
ed Don Ramon with

twenty-three years ago,
Ramon was then in his
is now past three-score and
ill full of life, although he
attacked as taking frequent naps
the day. Indeed, one of the wits
antiago has made a bon mot in
ence to him that to me seems
sarcastic than just. This man
"The King of England reigns,
does not rule. The President of the
United States rules, but does not reign.
The President of France neither rules
nor reigns. The President of Chile—
raps."

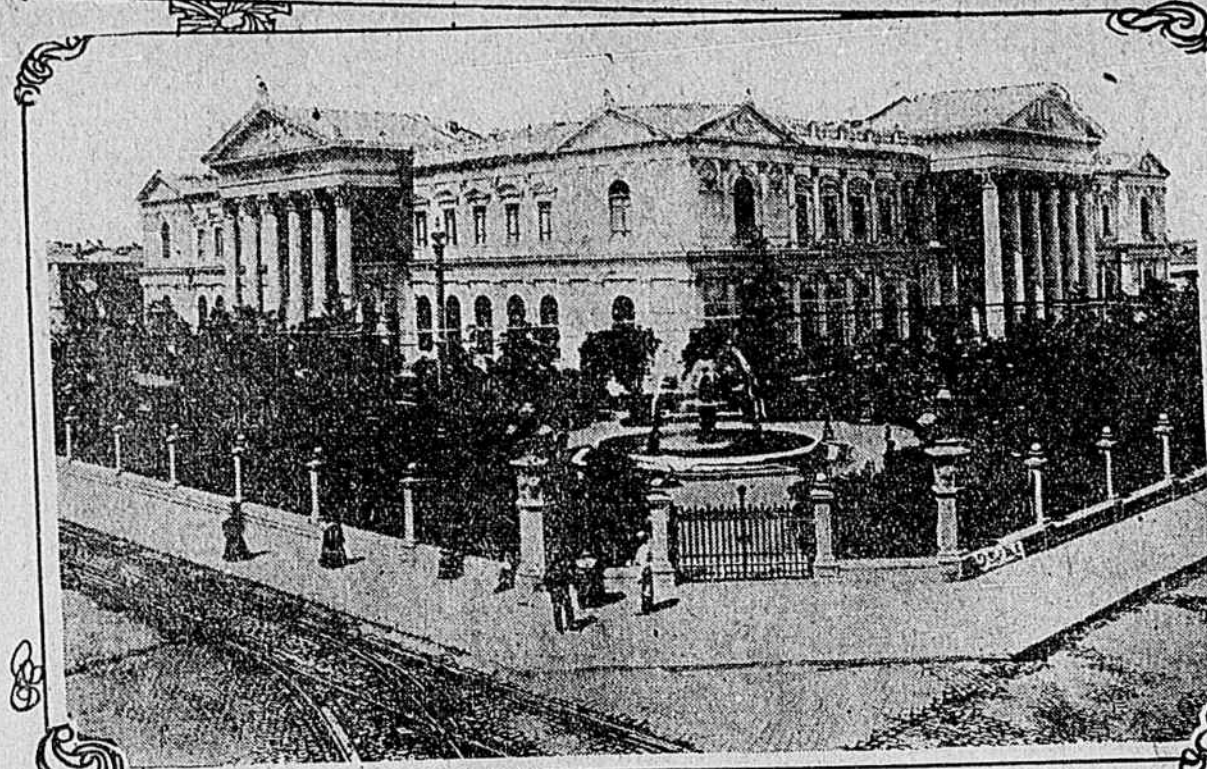
Found Don Ramon far from sleep-
ing during my interview. The talk
was arranged through Mr. Roland B.
Harvey, who in the absence of the
American minister was charged with
affairs of our legation in Santiago, and
the audience was given in the Moneda,
or Chilean White House. The Moneda
is also the State Department, and be-
fore going in to the President, I had
a short talk with the Secretary of
State as to the growth of Chile and
the great development now going on
in the South. I asked him as to the
nitrate fields, and whether our fami-
lies are to continue to have their best
fertilizers from this part of the world.
The secretary replied that we need not
worry. "We are finding new nitrate
deposits right along," said he, "and the
industry is spreading north and south.
If the present demand only were to be
satisfied, we could supply it for 100
years, but new markets are coming up,
and the continent of Asia promises to
be one of our chief consumers. We are
already sending a great deal of nitrate
to Japan, and also to Southern Europe,
including Russia and the Balkan states.
Germany is one of our chief customers,
and the Austro-Hungarians are steadily
increasing their demand."

At this point I was told that the
President was ready to see me, and
Don Ramon, one of the secretaries,
Mr. Harvey and myself were taken into
the audience room. This is more like
a large parlor than like the offices of
our White House. The floor is heavily
carpeted and historical paintings hang
from the walls. The room is luxuri-
ously furnished, but it has none of the
soft couches or sofas upon which the aged
President is said to sleep. Indeed, his
eccentricity looked more like an active
American business man than a sleeper.
He is short and straight and inclined
to be fleshy. He has a big head, a rosy
face and bright eyes. He asked me to
sit down beside him, and for half an
hour or so we chatted together as to
his country, its government and its re-
lations to the United States.

The President spoke of the comple-
tion of the Panama Canal, and thanked
the United States for the great work
it had done there for the world. He
told me he hoped to come northward
to visit us at the close of this year.
His term of office will then be over,
and he expects to visit the opening of
the San Francisco Exposition if con-
gress will free him from the provision
that the President remain in the country
for one year after the close of his
term. Don Ramon told me that his
plan is to travel to Panama, examine
the canal and thence proceed by ship
to San Francisco. After seeing the
fair he will go across the mountains
and plains to Chicago, and thence to
Washington and New York. He
will return to Chile by the Caribbean
Sea and the Pacific, passing through
the canal.

I asked the President as to the effect
of the Panama Canal upon our trade
with his country. He replied that it
will undoubtedly better the relations
between the two republics, and that
the United States will be able to sell
the goods of this continent. He expects
an immediate increase from now on
in the exports of Chile to the United
States, and that not only from its
mines, but also from its farms and
orchards. He spoke kindly of Colonel
Theodore Roosevelt, who has made a
host of friends during his visit to
Chile, and also referred to the con-
vention of the Pan-American Union at
Santiago and to the fact that our Sec-
retary of State, Mr. Bryan, and Mr.
John Barrett, the director of the union,
are to be present. The President be-
lieves in a closer union of the Pan-
American republics, and thinks that
they should co-operate in maintaining
the peace of this hemisphere.

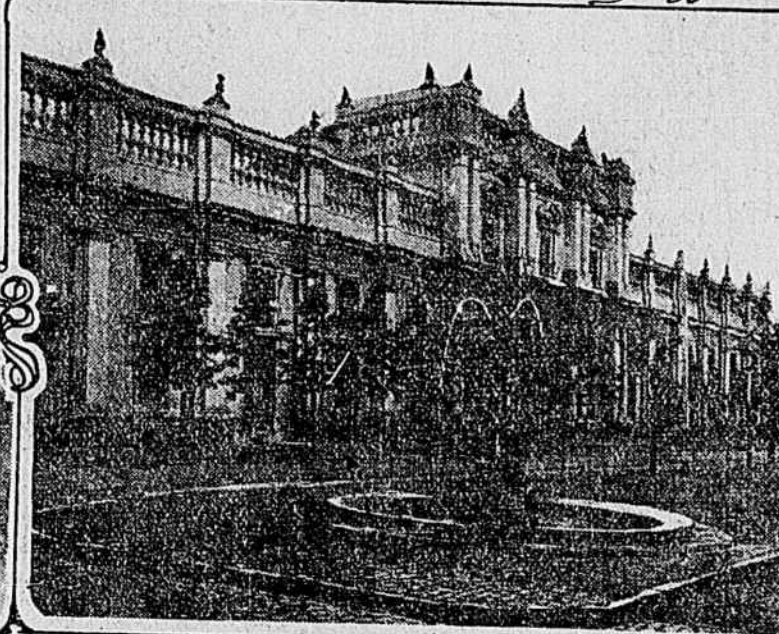
During the interview I asked Don
Ramon several questions as to his ex-
ecutive powers, and as to the points of
difference between the republics of
Chile and ours. The Chilean Consti-
tution is modeled upon that of the
United States, but there are striking
differences, and in some of the points
the Chilean constitution differs from
ours. The President of Chile ap-
oints his own Cabinet, but he has also
a Council of State of eleven members,
five of whom are nominated by him
and the other six are chosen by Congress.
The council has advisory functions,
and its approval is required in many



The Houses of Congress



Army Officers



The Chilean White House

side, he has his house rent free and
lots of perquisites. Don Ramon Bar-
ros has a salary of less than \$7,000,
and in the neighborhood of \$5,000 for
expenses. His total official income is
just about \$12,000, and, notwithstanding
this, he lives in good style, and has
a limousine.

The Moneda, or Chilean White House,
is much larger than our Executive Man-
sion. It covers almost four acres, and
consists of a three-story building run-
ning around patios or courts, filled
with flowers, and in which fountains
play. The building is large for a coun-
try the size of Chile, and as the story
goes, it was made so through a mis-
take. It was built in the old Spanish
times, the plans being made in Madrid
and sent to Santiago. The Spanish
architect had been told by the King
to construct two sets of drawings, one
for a large building in Mexico City,
and also a part of the Spanish domi-
nion, and a smaller building for
Chile. He followed his directions, but
in forwarding the plans Santiago got
the Mexican drawings and Mexico got
those for Santiago. The result was
this enormous Moneda, which is to-day
the largest presidential residence on
this hemisphere.

Returning to the government of
Chile, the country is one of the best
managed of all South American. Its
people are noted for their patriotism.
They are for Chile first, last and all
the time, and although they will fight
each other during the presidential
campaigns, they are peaceful once the
President is elected. The country is not
one of revolutions. It has had only
thirteen Presidents since
1830, and one of these was elected, but
did not act. Since the beginning of
the republic in 1810 there have been
twenty-five Presidents, and the only
revolutionary period was between 1823
and 1830, when there were ten different
executives. During the first years of
the republic several of the Presidents
had terms of ten years, and it was not
until 1871 that the five-year period,
without re-election, which now pre-
vails, began. The President has the
right to veto, but Congress can, by a
two-thirds vote, override his objec-
tions, and make its bills a law. When
a presidential measure fails, it is the
custom of the Cabinet to resign, and
there have been times when Chile has
had a new Cabinet on the average about
once a month.

The Congress of Chile differs from
ours as to its elections, its times of
meeting, and in several other features.
The members of both Senate and House
are elected by the males of the coun-
try, but no one can vote without be-
ing able to read and write. There is a
difference in the voting age as to whether
a man is married or single. The bache-
lor has to wait until he is twenty-five,
but the married man can vote at the
age of twenty-one. Members of the
House of Deputies must be at least
twenty-one at the time of their elec-
tion, and Senators must be thirty-six
or more. All candidates for Congress
must have a specified income, and a
member of the lower house cannot
serve without he has at least \$500 per
year. Every Senator must have at
least \$2,000 a year, and members of
both houses must serve without sala-
ries. There is supposed to be no finan-
cial profit in the position, and the place

is one of honor alone. As to graft, I
have no doubt but that more or less
exists. Indeed, I have yet to find a
legislative body on earth where each
and all of the members are saints.

The provisions for educational qual-
ifications for suffrage and the require-
ment of a specified income make the
government of Chile an oligarchy. It
practically confines the administration
to the richer classes, and the great
families control the country. This is
not only in Chile, but in all of the
Latin-American republics. It has al-
ways been so in Mexico, and the sup-
position that the Mexicans can have
free and fair elections under the pres-
ent conditions is absurd to any one
who knows Latin-America. The gov-
ernment of these countries has always
been in the hands of the few, and it is
only by education and gradual uplift
that the masses can be fitted to take
part in the legislature and the gov-
ernment.

The Chilean Congress meets in the
winter, its sessions running from June
1 to September 1. This country, as
you know, is south of the equator, and
it therefore has its winter when we
have our summer. In addition to this
regular meeting, the President can call
an extra session whenever he chooses,
and during the recess a permanent
committee of members of both houses
presides over certain public business.
The houses of Congress are situated
in the heart of the city. The Capitol
building is of two stories. Its mate-
rial is white stone, and the porticos,
which form the entrance to the Cham-
ber of Deputies and the Senate, are
the building is surrounded by a beauti-
ful garden filled with semi-tropical
trees. There are palms as big around
as hogwashes, which are nevertheless
not more than thirty feet high. There
are also beds of beautiful flowers.
At one corner of the grounds is a foun-
tain, and at the other a statue stand-
ing on the site of the Jesuit Church, which
was burned while the congregation was
at worship, resulting in the death of
more than 2,000 women. The
doors of the church opened inward, and
when the fire occurred the audience
pressed against the doors, holding them
shut, and causing this enormous loss of
life. The monument is a beautiful mar-
ble Madonna in the attitude of mourn-
ing, with four kneeling angels at her
feet, each upheld by six Corinthian columns.

I passed this monument in going into
the Chamber of Deputies. This cham-
ber is entered by a beautiful hall in
the shape of a half-moon, and the
galleries for visitors are reached by a
marble staircase, which leads to a sec-
ond and third floor. Both of the cham-
bers have the desks of the members
running in rows back from the seat of
the Speaker. The desks are of school-
board, and are more like school-
desks than those which we formerly
had in the House of Representatives.
The building has also rooms for the
President and secretaries, and there is
a Congress hall, where the President
reads his message to both houses,
which come together for the purpose.

The government of Chile has three
branches—executive, consisting of the
President and his Cabinet; legislative,
comprising the two houses of Con-
gress, and judicial, embracing the
courts. The country is divided into

provinces, which correspond to
States, and departments that may
be compared to our counties. The Presi-
dent appoints the Governors of
provinces and the chief officers of
counties. They, in turn, appoint
officials under them, so that the Presi-
dent practically controls the civil
service of the country. He also con-
trols the courts, appointing the judges
and their subordinates, with the ap-
proval of the Council of State.

The courts are like ours in some
respects and different in others. There
is a Supreme Court at the capitol
which supervises all the other courts
of the republic. There are six courts
of appeal, one in each of the provin-
cial cities, and there are minor courts
scattered over the country. There is
a jury system, except in the cases of
the freedom of the press has been
abused. All trials are before a
more judges, the government being
represented by public prosecutors.
Police are under the control of
Minister of the Interior, and are
very well managed. Police
penses are paid out of the na-
tional treasury.

The Chileans are proud of their
army. They are natural soldiers, and
said they would rather fight than
work. According to the laws, every able-
bodied citizen is obliged to serve in
the army, and recruits are called up
every year. They afterwards serve out
for nine years in the reserve
country. I divided into zones
of military districts, each of which
complete division of mobilization
total strength of the army is 1
ficers and 26,000 men.

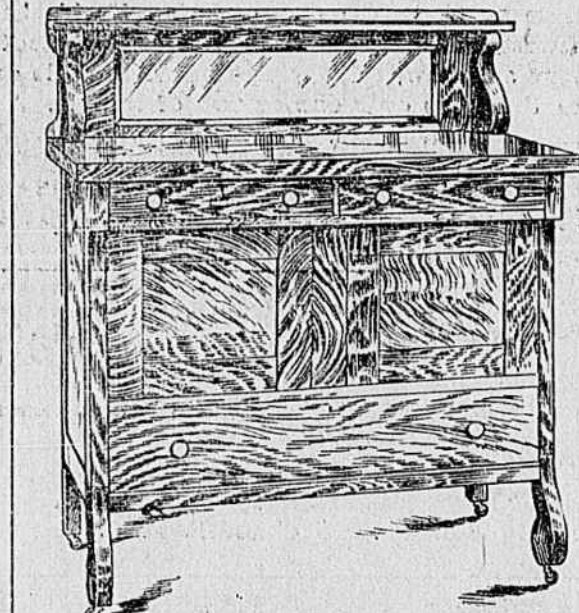
The country has good military
equipment. Its officers are all trained
men. The army is said to be
the most efficient in South America.

As to financial matters, the
ment of Chile is more chea-
per than that of the United States.
Chilean government costs ab-
out 600,000 a year. Ours cost a
600,000 a day, and in this is not
our social account or the pay-
ments on the public debt.
ernment of Chile controls the
the railways, and it has a
some millions of pesos from the
every year. The roads are be-
ing and poorly equipped.
officials and employees are a
political machine rather than
servants of the traveling pub-
(Copyright, 1914, by Frank
Penter.)

The government of Chile has three
branches—executive, consisting of the
President and his Cabinet; legislative,
comprising the two houses of Con-
gress, and judicial, embracing the
courts. The country is divided into

Price-Wrecking With a Vengeance

This \$35 Colonial Buffet



\$22.75

Solid quarter-sawn oak,
Colonial posts and stan-
dards, large French plate
mirror. Roomy cupboard
and drawers; heavily pol-
ished finish. Striking design;
actual value \$35.

\$22.75

Such slashing, smashing underpricing was never witnessed before
on Furniture of this character. Little prices told in big figures and
CREDIT OF THE UTMOST LIBERALITY is the Pettit offering to
its customers this week. Let every one who wants a better furnished
home take advantage of it—the very first thing to-morrow morning.

Extra Special Genuine \$1.00 Cedar Mop 39c



Fine for floors,
gets in corners;
sold every where
at \$1.00 to \$1.50,
to-morrow,

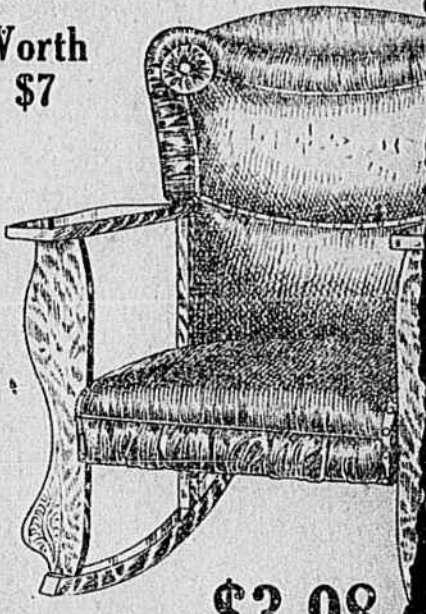
39c

\$3.98

Buys This \$7.00

Massive Rocker

For library or den, with
broad arms, heavily cus-
hioned back and seat, covered
with excellent quality imi-
tation leather. Handsome
golden oak finish, strong and
durable. Wonderful value.



\$3.98

This \$3.00 Arm Rocker

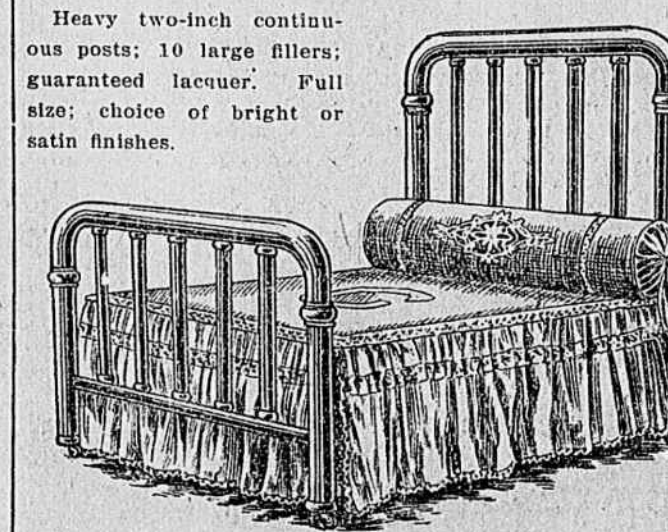


\$1.49

An extraordinary value. Solid
oak, golden finish, shaped
saddle seat; large, br-
comfort-
able arms. O. one to a cus-
tomer.

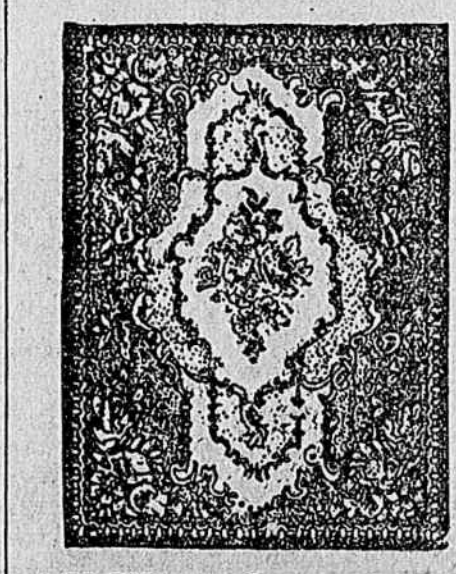
\$1.49

Massive \$20.00 BRASS BED \$12.69



Heavy two-inch continu-
ous posts; 10 large fillers;
guaranteed lacquer. Full
size; choice of bright or
satin finishes.

Rugs and Floor Cove



An overstock of
newest and most
terms necessitates
cutting for quick
are prices that s
economy:

- 9x12 Pro-Brussels
- 9x12 Wool and
- Rugs
- 9x12 Tapestry
- 9x12 Triple G
- estry Rugs
- 9x12 Axmings
- 9x12 Sanfo
- ity Axm
- 9x12 Wilto
- All other
- ingly lov

All Floor Coverings Made

Credit at Less Than Usual Cash Prices
Enables all to share in the wonderful econ-
omies of this sale. Make your selections early
—quantities limited on many items, and first
comers get them.

Pettit and Company
FOURTH BROAD ST.

Free Del

No matter wh
pate in this w
orders receive
always.